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DEVOTED TO MORALITY, PURE LITERATURE, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC NEWS, AGRICULTURE, THE COMMERCIAL INTEREST, SCIENCE, ART AND AMUSEMENT.

VOLUME XXXI. PHILADELPHIA, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1851. WHOLE NO. 1584.

Choice Poetry.

THE HEROINE MARTYR OF MONTEREY.

BY REV. JAMES GILMORE LYONS, L. L. D.

When the American forces under General Taylor crossed Monterey, on the 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of September, 1846, a Mexican woman was seen going about among the disabled of both armies, binding up their wounds, and supplying them with food and water. While thus employed she fell. She was on the list of missing—was buried by the Americans, who had even then to bear an increased discharge of shot from the Mexican batteries.

The stride was stern at Monterey,
When those high towers were lost and won;
And, pealing through that mortal fray,
Flash'd the stong battery's vengeful gun
Yet, heedless of its deadly rain,
She stood in toil and danger first,
To bind the bleeding soldier's vein,
And shake the dying soldier's thirst.

She found a pale and stricken son
Drinking in nature's last recipe,
And on the red earth kneeling low,
Shut wet his parched and fevered lips
When, with a Victor's dying cheer,
The booming shot and flaming shell
Forgot with wild rage their puny errand,
And she—the good and gentle—fell!

Then laid her in a narrow bed—
The former of her kind and race;
And sighs were breathed, and tears were shed,
Above that lowly resting place.
Ay! glory's ruthless worshippers
Wept over her unmanly toil,
For deeds of mercy such as hers
Subdue the hearts and eyes of all.

To round her words were guile and shame
In us, who love but gold and ease
Their bond alike our peace or blame.
Who love and die—alike for these.
For greater than the woe or brave,
Far happier than the lost and gay,
Was she who found a martyr's grave
On that red field of Monterey!

Original Novelet.

THE DISCARDED DAUGHTER;

OR,

THE CHILDREN OF THE ISLE.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY MRS. EMMA D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH,
AUTHOR OF "SHANNONDALE," "THE DESERTED WIFE," &c. &c.

[Entered according to the Act of Congress, by Deacon & Peterson, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.]

CHAPTER XVII.

THE FESTIVAL AT POINT PLEASANT.

Why this is as it should be: here
Is my true realm amidst bright eyes and faces,
Happy as fate! *Sardanapalus.*

Then all was jollity.

Feasting and mirth, light heartedness and laughter, Pipeg and playing, fiddling and dancing.
'Tis night before Christmas, and all through the country,
A chaos of commotion without a meaning. *Text Sheet.*

"Maria! May-ry-ee-ah!" Where is that girl! Oh, dear! how I do wish I could venture down stairs myself! But I know if I go down through the open passages, half of the company in this wind, I shall be laid up with the pleurisy! And to keep it here is to sit, and sip, and call, and can't get any of them up to me! Tee *Maree!* Indeed, indeed, I really only get Jacky to have her hair done strong—I know it will be cold about it long enough! May-ry-ee-ah!" Oh, here she is last!" exclaimed old Mrs. Wilde, as, after vainly rapping and calling for some time, she at last succeeded in bringing her handsome mulatto handmaiden to her presence—"Where have you been, Maria, where is your young mistress?"

Miss Ambush deranging the affectionate fairy in the parlor?"

"Yes—has she finished the *blanc-mange?*"

"Yes, ma'am, she's delivered them all little basket?"

"And the calf's-foot jelly?"

"Yes, ma'am, she's delivering that into her stacks."

"Forming them, or rather mumbling it into the shape of brickbats, you blockhead!"

"Well, ma'am."

"Who is ornamenting the salmon?"

"Marse Charles, he fostering cedar all along the ceiling."

"Very well! I shall be down presently, just as soon as the wind lays, to see after things myself. Now then, be off, you girl—have all the bed rooms been opened and aired?"

"Yes, missus."

"And all the bed linen been changed? and have you spread on the white Marseilles counterpanes and toilet covers?"

"Yes, missus."

"And have you had wood and kindling chips in every fire-place, ready to make a fire?"

"Yes, ma'am."

"See then that the fires are lighted at three o'clock at latest, that you may be ready to dress attire, where the young gentlemen, who stay over night, are to sleep?"

"I was just go'ne there when you call me down, missus."

"What sort of counterpanes did you put on their beds?"

"He hested white Marshall's counterpanes!"

"My best white Marseilles counterpanes! There, I knew it! That is because I could not walk after every step of my limp!" Why then will ever you learn direction? Don't you know that they are for the use of the ladies exclusively? Don't you know that they are for the best bed-chambers? Don't you know they are entirely thrown away upon young gentlemen? That young gentlemen can't tell the difference between a white, domestic wove counterpane that does not, and a fine French one? Don't you know also that they, the young men I mean, are not particular if they have had just a bit of soap that first upon the edge of the bed to pull their boots on an act that they hold cruel shame things unless I have told you a hundred times, and I am weary of repeating them. Go now and take those fine counterpanes off that bed, and after keeping up the fringe off the floor, and put them in the top closet in the inner room, having sprigs of dried lavender between them. And—listen to me!—young master's just been here, and he says that there will be at least fifty people here to stay all night, which is just thirty more than we prepared for, and where they will all sleep, I do not know. They will have to sleep double, and four or six in a room, at any rate, that is certain. So go and get Cornelius Tarleton to come to the house and help you, and go up, both of you, into the loft, and bring down those cot bedsteads, and set two up in each of the large chambers that contain but one bedstead, and one up in each of the chambers that contain two bedsteads. There, go along! mind now, do it all very nicely, for, after the wind lays, I shall come out and go all over the house to see that it's all done right."

As the girl retired, the old lady sank into her chair, saying, with something like a sigh,

"Twenty-seven white people in the family to provide for, and two hundred negroes that are growing more worthless every day of their lives, and now here are absent a hundred and fifty people coming to supper to-night! I do think Jacky Wylie is run mad! *He* thinks he'll never get to the bottom of his purse! but I'm afraid he'll find a bottom to some of those days—yet God forgive me, am I in my old days growing inhospitable?"

In the meantime, Judge Jacky, who never gave his attention to anything till alarmed by the near approach of the last moment, was blustering like a young hurricane through the plantation in a terrible flurry, for fear "there wouldn't be enough to eat." Behold him now standing half way between the most house and the kitchen in the wind, talking to his slaves, and men as they came up one by one to report progress. His face is as red as wind, hard cider, and excitement can make it. His body is bent forward, his hands thrust into his pockets, his coat-skirts sticking back, his hair and his coat tails blowing behind him. Narcissus, a young mulatto, the brother of Maria, a handsome boy, with regular features and flowing hair, is standing before him. Judge Jacky is catechising him anxiously.

"How many sheep were killed yesterday, you rascal?"

"Two, sir, war exterminated, 'coolin' to sentence?"

"Two! the d—l! Go and kill four! How many eating pigs were killed?"

"Five oh de innocents, sir, war massacred yesday at noon, by my own hand!"

"Five! There it is again! Are people to be starved at our house? Hang it, sir, why don't you cut the throats of *two* more? You do it within the hour. Let's see—how many turkeys?"

"Eight, sir!"

"Eight! Eight turkeys! Thunder! Blazes! Eight! I'll be—a great mind to kick you! But with my foot! Eight. See here, sir! you just dial that out of impudence! And now go string the necks of sixteen. And see that you do it! Listen to me! Take a general order once for all, and bear it for ever in your mind. Go and slaughter just twice as many of every kind of stock and poultry, as was killed yesterday. And all the other vagabonds about the place to work instantly, and have it done within the hour. The supper is to go on from eight o'clock to-night! Be off with you now, and go to killing as fast as you can. D—n it, I'll have every hand here in the wind all day, asking questions like an Inquisitor General! Come, be off to your slaughtering."

"Yes, massa; but, 'dowd sar, you must take it into 'sideration, that if you's an Acquisition—which no one ever accused you of, sir—no more am I a bloody French revolutionist who de Reign ob 'Lirium Terrorem, when dey cut off people' heads, and made 'em walk 'out guillin' blood, as I've heern you gemmun talk about sometime. I has no desire to be cut off, too, mayder. Deed I has, sir! And I don't like to do so much bloody slaughteration amongst de poor harmless cattle, massa George!"

Judge Jacky snatched his right fist out of his pocket, and made a dash at Narcissus, who dodged and escaped. Then he laughed, "Hem! or rather smothered a laugh, saying,

"See here, you fastidious gentleman of fine feelings! if the provisions should grow short this evening, I'll make a hash or a potpie of you! see if I don't! Go—Go—Go!"

And then the master sauntered away to see what other department of his domestic economy—threatening every time he would meet his idle daughter, or one of his easy, lazy sisters, or their lovely-eyed nephews, that he would get married—yes! kill him if he didn't, if it was only for the sake of getting some one to take the cares of the family off his hands. It was blamed hard, so it was, that with so many young people in the house, he should have to look to so much himself; he really did suppose that before long he should have to cook and wash, and sew, and feed the fowls, and milk the cows, and the niggers, too! He would get married, that he would! in the very first month—and he had established young lady that asked him. So Judge Wylie went grumbling, and laughing, and threatening, and blustering, while the poor, weak old man, up stairs curling their hair; and the young men were—Heaven knows where!

There was a merry, happy, but not so select a company, invited by the genial, social Judge Jacky, that it was considered to be a very unreserved General General. And by "early candle-light"—the country hour of assembling for the evening—the house—parlors, chambers, family rooms, and saloon, were crowded to overflowing. The dining-room only was kept clear for the use of the long tables were to be set for supper. The saloon, or "big room," as it is popular usage in old fashioned country houses—was blazing with light and splendor, and pealing with music, and alive with young men and maidens in the gayest, handsomest and newest, or what coarser souls, it must be confessed, but then it was such a joyous, jubilant, exultant throng! Young folks laughed, and talked, and flirted, and danced, and jested with so much gladness and freedom! And Judge Jacky moved about amongst them, talking, joking, gallanting all the ugly old maids, making love to all the low-spirited girls, and dancing, and singing, and laughing all the while, and keeping up such a running fire of the plain guile, encouraging all shame-faced young gentlemen, and electrifying into general life all the dull, and sad, and unprofitable folks in the joyous company!

But it is not with the gay and thoughtless of this merry crowd that we have to do, but with our great-hearted Maggie, and our dear Elsie. Let us turn to them now, and see how it is with them. Let us see if that they both had too much on their minds to think of dancing. They had each come to the festival together, but the other and have a table. General Garnet would willingly have kept Elsie all to himself, but Judge Jacky had set his heart on

Original Lectures.

MR. LORD'S LECTURES ON THE HEROES OF THE REFORMATION.

LECTURE I.

JOHN CALVIN, AND PRIMITIVE CHRISTIANITY.

PHONOGRAPHICALLY REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.

Mr. Lord's second lecture attracted, notwithstanding the extreme inclemency of the weather, an audience even larger and more enthusiastic than that which greeted his first appearance. The subject follows, in the order determined to preserve fully and satisfactorily the grace of his remarks:

If I were to select the most unattractive and unlovely subject in the whole range of the Protestant Reformation as the consequence, I would choose the one which it is now my present object to present to you. Of all the characters which the world places on the list of the immortal, John Calvin is probably the least loved, and the least understood; and even among religious people, his name is more associated with all that is gloomy and repulsive.—He is imagined a pale spectre; a dark memory or evil among men; a prophet of retribution, doom. It only to pronounce the funeral of foreboding, and death in the Christian system.

There are others again who make an idol of his name, and attribute to him nothing of him but the most extravagant praise; who consider a history of his life one continuous panegyric, and to himself a sun about whose centre all other bodies of genius revolve.

For myself, I wish to present to discuss this extraordinary man and his great ideas without regard to prevailing opinions on the subjects, and as they have appeared to my own mind after considerable study and reflection. And as I can appeal only to the intelligence and pre-informed candor of hearers, it is unnecessary for I be allowed to deal only with well-known and striking facts.

In the life of Calvin, there is nothing dramatic to arrest our attention. In his labors in the Reformation, he was a great opposition to withstand, nor did he contend objectively with Popes and Governments. He was a quiet and unassuming man, devoted to study, and almost buried in retirement; but by his unceasing labors, he established a body of truths, which was to change the thinking of his age, and impress his mind and character upon far distant generations.

John Calvin was born of respectable parents, in the South of France, in the year 1509, and very early showed himself fit for piety and attainments. I have never read of greater precocity than is recorded of Calvin. When twenty, two years of age he was regarded, and acknowledged as the champion of the Reformation for his country; and like Luther, he embraced that cause, after passing through an interesting series of opinions. At the age of twenty-six, he published his immortal Institutes, and in the following year, 1536, he was settled as minister to the Protestant Church at Geneva, and was acknowledged as the leader of the Reformation in France and Switzerland. For long, he had made the little city of Geneva the central object of Protestant opinions throughout Europe, but without any vicissitudes or revolutions; and through his whole life, and to his death, in 1564, he suffered no great check to his power and influence, enjoyed his banishment from Geneva for a short time, and regained it to the height of a position of a party hostile to him, and to his cause.

In commencing upon the character of Calvin, I would direct attention to him in the several lights in which he appeared to the men of his own generation, as a Reformer, a Legislator, a Theologian, and a Christian.

At the mention of Reformer, Luther involuntarily rises before our minds, and we naturally compare Calvin with him. As an objective reformer, Luther stands alone. He was a man specially raised up by Divine Providence for the work of a reformation, and he was peculiarly fitted for the task assigned him. Equally powerful with people and with scholars, and therefore he was able to inspire the student and the man of active life. In his different situations, he occupied distinguished and prominent positions, and yet mild, simple, yet worldly wise. He would commune with God on the bolder, or walk with them on the plain. At one moment, he would appear familiar with theological terms, and at another, rebuke the rulers of the world with all the dignity of an ancient prophet. At Interviews, he would descend to the level of a circle of social life, and soothe his troubled spirit with familiar and plentiful converse, or the charms of music and song.

Calvin had not his versatility, nor his popular manners, nor his stirring energy; nor his elasticity of mind, capable of reloading, that he had a clearer head, a more logical mind, and greater distinctness of knowledge, with more fondness for analysis and system. Having such a trim and constitution of mind, he did not manufacture ideas such as the creeds of Christianity, or the reformers of his age, but he exerted them to a greater extent. Luther retained many forms of the Roman Church, and held in particular the doctrine of justification by faith. Calvin aimed at entire simplicity, and nearly rejected every form and every doctrine which he could not show to be in accordance with the Bible, or with the observances of the Primitive Church. Luther continued the use of images in the Churches, and the ancient form of the ceremonies of Rome. Calvin insisted upon a reformed simplicity, and considered religion degraded by every thing but its essence: he strictly abolished all Roman forms, and retained in his churches scarcely only the singing of Psalms. He thought that praise should come from the heart, rather than be derived from the efforts of more mechanical process of refinement, and the mere symbolical forms of churches, crosses, crucifixes, and robes. He also was that "God is a Spirit, to be worshipped in spirit and in truth." He did not buy much stress upon the particular observance of days and seasons, considering it rather bordering upon the festivals of Saint's days of Rome. It is not confessed, however, that he invariably set apart that day for the proper instruction of the people. But it was reserved for the beginning of the 17th century, for a more discriminative upon that question, and to separate the Sabbath, in their regard, from the mass of holydays and week days. Respecting the Lord's Eucharist, he adopted original views, opposed to those both of Rome and Zuinglius. He did not consider it a mere outward symbol, nor did he yet believe it as the actual presence of Christ to the bread and wine. He took a middle course, admitting the spiritual, but denying the bodily presence of the Saviour; regarding the ceremonial as to be good a memorial of that blessed Christ. At the present time, the views of Protestant Christendom are not very decisive on this subject, we do not regard it with the lofty tenor inherit which the people of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries manifested. Some are inclined to the views of Calvin, as fostered in the Church of England, while others, and more especially in the section of country from which I come, adopt the peculiar notions of the Independents upon this subject.

Respecting morals, Calvin was very rigid; his system aimed at the utter eradication of vice, and according to his theory of engrossing all to the moral acts, he adopted very stringent measures. In his acts of severity, he used every possible effort to foster wholesome by suppressed many innocent amusements; he abolished all questionable pleasures, sports and games, and ridiculed by exhibitions. He circumscribed a woman for putting on a flower, a man's shirt of ruffles, a nun into the pillory for playing at cards; severe punishment was the penalty for absence from the Lord's Supper. He had no mercy either for frivolity or boisterous pleasure, and enjoined that men, whether of the Roman or more modest sect always a though in immediate connection of the Judgment Day. He discountenanced and also censured grief, as unbecoming and weak. In these respects, Calvin was very different from Luther. The latter never thought to repress the exhibitions of natural feeling; his doctrine was that men must be allowed to give full expression to their emotions, and that they are patiently wrong, or that they would become hypocritical or insincere. I do not say that Luther would have sanctioned the excesses of the age he abandoned liberties; but he was emphatically a friend to practical toleration, and hated hypocrisy worse than gaiety. In these respects, as on other hand, Calvin was extremely severe, but he nevertheless enjoined a great theological liberty, and he would have united the various Protestant Churches, therein showing more liberality than Luther. For instance, he would have joined the English to the Scotch Church, and permitted similar unions on the Continent. Even the Catholic writers admit that Rome was alarmed by his tranquillizing measures, for to Rome the most gratifying sight, is a sectarian point of view, is the divisions and dissensions of the Protestants among themselves; to them she triumphantly points. If there were but a sentiment and a bond of union among Protestants, then Protestantism would go on to achieve new and more glorious victories.

As a legislator, Calvin takes a very high rank among statesmen for genius and power, although in his doctrine of laws he inclined too closely to the code of Moses to claim originality. His legislative system was based on the idea of a theocracy, where God presided as the supreme, and ordered into all his laws. He believed, with Augustine, that the Primitive Church was the best Church that ever was the worthy and lawful representative of God on earth, but that in the corruptions of the papacy, errors and ideas of all kinds, and that the institution was degenerated, and its principles perverted. But by his plan of reform, a complete government, Calvin never supposed that the temporal power of the State should rule in the name of God. He wished to realize the grand ideal which the Middle Ages sought for, but sought in vain—that the Church and State always remain the mother of different principles, while the State should continue to be the agent by which theological principles were carried out. He believed that all worldly domination or State interference in the Church was fatuate; that no power should hinder or direct the exercise of the duties of the clergy. Calvin never bowed to the spiritual dominion of Rome, and he acquiesced obedience to man only so far as his statutes were in accordance with the rule of God. He was careful to separate the functions of ministers of religion from those of ministers of State, maintaining that the Church should not be under the civil right to determine the orthodoxy. On the other hand, the clergy were not allowed the use of the temporal sword, or to rescinded the privilege which, under Roman ordinances, they had always enjoyed, of being tried for civil offences by ecclesiastical courts only; he made them amenable to the civil power for all such offences. His jurisdiction in these cases He took away differences of rank among priests, and controlled ecclesiastical privileges by substituting the Assembly twice as much as the clergy. He above all maintained that the State and Church should be organized by the commandments of God, and subject to His laws as set forth in the Scriptures; nothing was binding on the Church interfered with those laws and with the commands of God. He adopted the Bible in its largest significations. It was this principle which produced the Puritan (so thought Cromwell); he declared that he was raised up to carry out the work, and prided himself a second Joshua, going boldly forth to fight the enemies of the Almighty. But Calvin himself did not institute many political changes, nor did he practically have much respect for the people. He had no popular sympathies, but rather looked upon the people as prone to license and wickedness, over whom it was indispensably necessary to keep constantly a stern and severe eye. He had no faith in the wisdom of congregated masses of men. He found the Governments of Geneva arbitrary, and he left it so; power was in the hands of a few men, and they were, according to their original meaning of aristocracy. Calvin thought that form the best calculated to preserve the State from popular instability; it was his favorite idea, but he modified it in his Church. In this respect, he aimed to pursue a middle course, and to avoid distinctions, for exactly he hated worse than the usurpations of the Pope. He thought the Presbyterian form would best serve the interests of the Church, and he moreover maintained that that form was in accordance with the Primitive Christianity. He had more respect for the institutions of the Church, than those who bear his name in this age. He was a believer of Church government with great power, however, he was too conscientious to use. He was a man of great genius and talents, being familiar with the great divines of the Church, and the saints of the Middle Ages. He wonderfully revived the literature of his own time; his Commentaries have probably never been surpassed, and they were written in Latin, in Greek, and such Scriptures in all assignment ages. In literature, he is distinguished for his learning, eloquence, good, and Rome Greek. When he spoke, it was to give a life to his expositions and make the Sacred Writings comprehensible and useful; he also had a good out what was most important, and in his arguments, appealed to an enlightened reason as well as to human experience.

But it is his system of divinity which has most contributed to his fame, and which has entitled him to be called most emphatically the Theologian of the Reformation," and as such he is universally acknowledged by the universal voice of mankind. He revived the discourses of the fathers and the schoolmen, and was probably inferior to none of them in thought and logical power. He did not deify the reason like Erigena, nor exalt the intellect above the heart, nor entrench himself in dogmatism like Ambrose. He was not an egotist, professing to know everything, and scornful of all knowledge but his own. He had the profound spiritual insight of Anselm, with the logic and the dialectic skill of Thomas Aquinas. In all his labors, he have no master but Christ, and he believed fully everything that man was the word and commandment of God. He takes his arguments, not from natural reason or from the opinions of holy fathers, but from the Bible; although he agrees with the writers preferred of both fathers and schoolmen, as Augustine, Athanasius, Ambrose, Bernard, and Grotschalk. But his system is most remarkable for the relations of the general doctrines of the Christian religion, and the manner in which he defended with such wonderful dialectical skill. Some of the leading doctrines of the Church have been distinguished not so much by difference from each other on the part of different writers, as by their want of it, singling out one prominent subject congenial to his turn of mind, and hold it through, or which he demanded by the circumstances of his age, and exhausting so that the whole energy of his life, his whole mind, and his whole heart are markably connected in the mind with great subjects —and one is not mentioned without suggesting the other. When Calvin is spoken of, the subject of Predestination rises at once before our imaginary, as the Churches, as the great doctrine of the ceremonies of Rome. Calvin insisted upon a reformed simplicity, and considered religion degraded by every thing but its essence: he strictly abolished all Roman forms, and retained in his churches scarcely only the singing of Psalms. He thought that praise should come from the heart, rather than be derived from the efforts of more mechanical process of refinement, and the mere symbolical forms of churches, crosses, crucifixes, and robes. He also was that "God is a Spirit, to be worshipped in spirit and in truth." He did not buy much stress upon the particular observance of days and seasons, considering it rather bordering upon the festivals of Saint's days of Rome. It is not confessed, however, that he invariably set apart that day for the proper instruction of the people. But it was reserved for the beginning of the 17th century, for a more discriminative upon that question, and to separate the Sabbath, in their regard, from the mass of holydays and week days. Respecting the Lord's Eucharist, he adopted original views, opposed to those both of Rome and Zuinglius. He did not consider it a mere outward symbol, nor did he yet believe it as the actual presence of Christ to the bread and wine. He took a middle course, admitting the spiritual, but denying the bodily presence of the Saviour; regarding the ceremonial to be good a memorial of that blessed Christ. At the present time, the views of Protestant Christendom are not very decisive on this subject, we do not regard it with the lofty tenor inherit which the people of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries manifested. Some are inclined to the views of Calvin, as fostered in the Church of England, while others, and more especially in the section of country from which I come, adopt the peculiar notions of the Independents upon this subject.

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THE MESSAGE.

We lay the Message of President Fillmore in full before our subscribers this week; and we feel the honest of hasty readers, given the following brief summary of its contents:

The Message opens with the usual prayer acknowledgment of our obligations in a temporal and spiritual.

The Legal Invasion of Cuba is then quoted of, and rebuked. No proper effort has or will been made to prevent it. The Spanish Minister presents in Spain—though Uncle Sam feels no obligations to intercede for his disobedient subjects—that the invasion was made from the United States. The minister of that age, when the Church was spiritual and its members modest, could comparatively little for treason and rebellion against the Church and liberty in material thrift, the greatest success of our times. The Message then proceeds to say that the Spanish authorities have given assurances that the Spanish Government will not be responsible for the outrages committed by the people of

SATURDAY EVENING POST.

PHILADELPHIA:
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1851.

From Washington.

CONGRESSIONAL NEWS.

SENATE.

The Thirty-Second Congress commenced on the 1st inst. The Senate having been called to order by Mr. King, the Rev. Mr. Slicer was invited to open the session by prayer in the Hall of Representatives.

All the members were present, excepting Messrs. Bradbury, Hunter, Sturdivant, Thompson, Upham, and Yulee, of Florida. Messrs. Douglas, Shields, Bell, Jones, of Tennessee, Sebastian, and Houston, Delaware and Rusk.

A number of credentials of new members were presented—among them those of Charles Sumner, of Mass., by Mr. Clay.

Mr Mangum presented the certificate of the Governor of Florida of the election of Hon. Jackson Morton, to fill the vacancy of Mr. Yulee for six years from the 4th of March last. Mr. Morton was qualified by the oath of the journal of the Senate of 1845, containing certain proceedings of an election for Senator, which was considered by the Hon. David L. Yulee as evidence of his having been elected Senator.

After considerable discussion, Mr. Mallory was sworn in, and the memorial of Mr Yulee referred to a committee of five.

Mr Dodge, of Iowa, submitted a resolution which was agreed to, requesting the President to inform the House of Representatives that there was a vacancy in the southern judgeship, and that the Senate is ready to proceed to business.

Mr Clemens noted, and it was accordingly ordered, that the hour for the meeting of the Senate shall be 12 o'clock.

Mr Mangum gave notice of a large number of bills, among which are the following, for reference to appropriate committees. To provide for the division and construction of a national road from the head of the Mississippi river to the Pacific ocean. A bill to reduce postage on newspapers and periodicals. A bill to reduce postage on letters throughout the United States. A bill directing the Secretary of the Treasury to cause collected upon imports there after the treaty with Mexico, duty to be collected on all articles of foreign fabric, &c. A bill to establish a line of ocean steamers between the United States and the Sandwich Islands, to Chagres, Aspinwall, and the establishment of a telegraph line from the Mississippi to the Pacific ocean. A bill for the establishment of a navy yard and depot in California.

Messrs Walker, Dodge, of Iowa, and Jones, also gave notice of the introduction of bills.

Mr Foote gave notice of his intention to introduce, the next day, the following joint resolution:

Resolved, &c., That the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States—Members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Governors of the respective Houses to make suitable arrangements for the inauguration of the President elect, on the 4th day of March next, and to invite to the United States Senate chamber to him assistance of the profound respect entertained for him by the people of the United States, and to tender to him on the part of Congress, and in the name of the people of the United States, the hospitality of the metropolis of the Union.

On the 3d, a committee was appointed to wait on the President, in connection with one from the House, and inform him that Congress was in session and ready to receive any communication he may make.

Mr Foote gave notice that he would to-morrow introduce a bill providing for the payment of the salaries of Congress for Sunday Officers and his associates in each.

Mr Atchinson gave notice that he would, at an early day, introduce a bill granting certain quantities of the lands of Missouri for the construction of a railroad.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was called to order at 12 o'clock, when the roll was called by the Clerk, and 212 members answered to their names.

The first business being the choice of a Speaker,

Mr. G. W. Jones, of Tenn., moved the appointment of tellers, saying also that the vote be taken viva voce. He said he would vote for the Hon. Linn Boyd, and he should vote for the Hon. Linn Boyd, of Ky., and he would do so because he was the nominee of the democratic party. Boyd was a democrat, a democrat in principle and in practice, a democrat in the rough and wooed Democrat, and a tried and true representative Democrat.

Mr Carter concurred with the gentleman from Tennessee, and if he had not been for Mr Boyd he should vote for him because he was the nominee of the Democratic caucus.

Mr Stanly said the Whigs met in caucus and nominated Mr Winthrop, but they had found from the contest that Democrats from Tennessee stood their ground better, and would be happy now to hear how far those gentlemen had been enabled to remember their duty.

Mr Savage—The gentleman had better retain his seat, for he will be called to order.

Mr Stanly—I am willing to be called to order by the gentleman from Tennessee, [Mr Jones;] remarked that the Whigs of the House had met in caucus, and had by a decided and complete expression of opinion, nominated Mr Winthrop for Speaker.

A voice—Not enough present.

Mr Brooks—Fifty or sixty. We have only seventy or eighty in all, nearly all that were in caucus this morning. How was it on the other side? The Democrats were unwilling to commit themselves to any promise, and refused to adopt similar resolutions to those read to us. We were told we were early in the field to stand. They presented a harmonious front, unbroken by any thing like a resolution, and they had then elected by the unanimous vote of the Democratic party, with reference to the compromise measures, and pledged to support the nominee of the party.

Mr Meade said that if he understood the gentleman from New York, the Whig party of the North wanted as a fact, that the Whig party of the North are now opposed to the compromise measures.

Mr Brooks, interrupting, said he would inform the gentleman, that the Whig caucus this morning refused to commit themselves to any expression of opinion upon the compromise measures.

Mr Meade—Then I understand the gentleman to say that those in that caucus reflected the sentiments of the Whig party of the North, and that that party is now prepared to engage in the contest with the enemy patriotic, and carry out the provisions of the fugitive slave law.

Mr Fowler said he was a Whig, and always expected to be. He had, in common with the rest of the nation, to say the resolutions referred to were the law of the land. They were the law which Millard Fillmore, although he did not count them. Daughter [Mr. Brooks] had said, and which he would say, that the Whig party of the North were prepared to engage in the contest, the sentiments of the compromise measures, and carry out the provisions of the fugitive slave law.

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Mr Meade said that the gentleman from New York [Mr Brooks] stated that only three Northern Whigs had voted for Winthrop, and that all the rest came from New York [Mr Brooks] was not one of them.

Mr Brooks admitted the fact, and said he was the most unfortunate act of his life that he did not vote for it.

Some conversation ensued among various members as to how many democrats participated in the caucus of last, had been returned to Congress; after which,

Mr Cobb, of Ala., rose and said he presumed it was that the Whigs had put themselves on the platform—that they were ready to carry out the fugitive slave law.

Mr Polk said, that on his introducing the compromise measures he had stated distinctly that he would not vote for them, but that he would support any man who had a fixed offered them in contradiction of the principles. The only thing necessary was to elect a Speaker, the country was not for.

Mr Cobb remembered, having given way for explanations.

Mr Jones, of Tenn., to request his friends to postpone the exercise participated in that time. He was not a caucus; they discuss the question properly. He was not a caucus man, and he was glad of it. He was a friend of Union and the President on these grave questions pending at present. We are all here pledged to the contest. We will all vote for whomever the caucus may nominate. I am not opposed to a Democrat, but as a Jew Democrat. [Laughter.] I am for Boyd, and I will vote for him as long as my name is on the roll.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Speaker, the voting being viva voce. The result was as follows:

Linn Boyd, of Ky., received	118 votes
Edward Stanly, of N.	25
Wm. F. Johnston, of Pa.,	16
Thaddeus Stevens, of Pa.,	1
David L. Barry, of Ills.,	1

And votes were thrown away on Messrs. Houston, Evans, Borrick, Botts, Lumpkin, Hunter, Dawson, Bayly, Cobb, Bell, Clingman, Pearce, Preston King, and G. W. Jones of Tenn. The whole number of votes was 212.

Mr. Boyd, of Ky., was thereupon declared duly elected Speaker of the House of Representatives, and by Messrs Stanly and Johnston conducted to the chair, and in his thanks to the members of the House presented himself to being qualified as the constitutional officer, and proceeded to discharge the duties of the office. He was qualified by the oath prescribed by law to the members of the House and hence to the country.

Mr Stanly moved that the House now proceed to the election of a Clerk.

Mr Giddings, being the oldest member of the House of Representatives, administered the oath of office to Speaker Boyd, amid much laughter. The members by delegations were then sworn in.

A resolution was adopted to inform the Senate of the election of a Speaker of the House of Representatives, and a committee appointed to wait upon the President, to inform him that a quorum of both Houses had assembled, and that they were ready to receive any communication he may make.

The rules and orders of the last House of Representatives were adopted by general consent.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Clerk, when John W. Forney, of Pennsylvania, received 110 votes; Col. J. W. Walker, 70; and Mr. Armstrong, 1.

Messrs. Stansbury, of Pennsylvania, for Sergeant-at-Arms; J. M. Johnson, of the District of Columbia, and McAleer, of the District of Columbia, for Doorkeepers, and Messrs. Ritchie and Ford, Postmasters, were elected together by resolution.

Messrs Giddings and Stanton were elected officers of the Congress. The House then adjourned.

After the usual routine of business on motion it was agreed to draw lots for seats as had just the House.

The question of providing newspapers for the members of the House came up. Forty dollars was agreed to as the allowance for the subscription.

After some discussion an amendment making the sum fifty dollars instead of forty, was offered and agreed to, with but little opposition.

Mr Evans offered a further amendment, providing newspapers for the members of the House of Representatives.

Mr Hunter spoke in deprecation of the whole system. He deemed it an extravagance to pay money upon the Government. They might as well call on the Government to furnish them with clothing.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

Fellow citizens of the Senate
and of the House of Representatives:

In meeting you at the commencement of the first session of the thirty-second congress, I offer you my profound congratulations that the general prosperity of our country continues unabated. Our population and wealth, our public revenues, our commerce and navigation, our agriculture and manufactures, and even the means of defence and the facilities of intercommunication, are in a state of progress unexampled in the history of nations. Whether we look to the past or to the present, we find much to admire and little to censure. Our liberties have not led us to licentiousness, nor our abundance to idleness and luxury. Our growth has not been attended with the vices which usually accompany rapid increase. Our democratic institutions have thus far successfully resisted the influence of those causes which have subverted the liberties of other republics. Our moral and religious habits are unimpaired. Our attachment to the Union of the States is unabated, and the determination to defend it against all attempts at dismemberment, from whatever quarter they may proceed, is universal. Lastly, we are at peace with all the world, and the extensive and profitable commerce which we enjoy is not interrupted by any hostile power. These are the circumstances which peculiarly demand our gratitude to the Supreme Ruler of the universe, who holds in his hands the destinies of nations, and who has graciously conducted us through the past year in safety and prosperity.

Abundant harvests have rewarded the labors of the husbandman, and the general health has been seldom more exempt from disease. The earth has been kind to the laborer, and has yielded her increase in rich profusion. Our fisheries have been eminently successful, and our mines have been wrought with industry and skill. Our manufactures have been prosecuted with energy, and have received the fostering care of the Government. Our commerce has whitened every sea, and transported to distant lands the productions of our soil and of our industry, and returned with the articles required by the wants, the comforts, or the luxuries of our people. Our revenue, derived chiefly from duties on imports, has been sufficient to defray the necessary expenses of the Government, to meet the interest on the public debt, and to extinguish principal to a large amount. Under the influence of these favorable circumstances, the resources of the country have been developed, and the wealth of individuals greatly increased. Our population has been augmented by the addition of many thousands of persons who have voluntarily sought our shores to participate in the benefits of our institutions. Our relations with foreign powers have been preserved in peace, and have been improved by the general disposition which they have manifested to cultivate friendly intercourse with the United States. Those with Spain have been rendered more intimate by the conclusion of a treaty of commerce, which has been carried into effect in the spirit which dictated it. Those with Austria have been placed on a more liberal basis by the treaty which I have recently concluded with that power. Those with Russia remain on the most friendly footing. Those with France, Great Britain, Belgium, Sweden and Norway, Prussia, and the other powers of Europe, are undisturbed, and give no cause for apprehension that they will be interrupted.

Our intercourse with the Ottoman Porte has been undisturbed, and our commerce with the Levant has been carried on to the usual extent. Our relations with China remain unchanged. Our commercial intercourse with that country has been increased by the conclusion of the treaty of Wang-Hiya, by the presence of the squadron of the United States in the Chinese seas, and by the visit to the principal ports of the empire of the enlightened and liberal commissioner who negotiated that treaty. The Government of China has manifested its friendly disposition by the treaty which it has concluded with the United States, and by the kind and hospitable treatment which it has extended to the officers of the squadron. Our commerce with Japan has been placed on a footing of safety and mutual benefit by the treaty which has been negotiated with that empire. Our relations with Siam, Muscat, Borneo, Mexico, the Central and South American States, and Hayti, are friendly, and our commerce with those countries is increasing. Our commercial intercourse with Liberia is extending, and our colonists there are in the enjoyment of prosperity. Our relations with the Independent States of Africa, and with the Emperor of Morocco, remain unchanged. Our consuls in the Barbary States have been instructed to watch with care the operation of the treaties with those powers, and to report infractions of them, if any should occur, to the Government. Our treaties with the Hanseatic republics, and with Portugal, Sardinia, Tuscany, the Two Sicilies, the Netherlands, Denmark, Hanover, Oldenburg, Mecklenburg Schwerin, Brazil, Chili, Peru, Ecuador, New Granada, Venezuela, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, San Salvador, and the Hawaiian Islands, remain unchanged, and are the basis of our friendly relations with those countries and states.

The boundary between the British possessions in North America and the United States, from the mouth of the river St. Croix to the river St. Lawrence, has been surveyed and marked, conformably to the provisions of the treaty of 1842. The commissioners have submitted their report to their respective governments. The interesting question of the navigation of the river St. Lawrence, and of the canals on the American side of that river, has been referred to the consideration of Congress by the Executive of New York. The commissioners appointed by the United States and Great Britain to determine the question of the right of fishery in the waters bordering on the British provinces in North America, have agreed upon a report, which will be laid before the respective governments. The commissioners appointed to run the boundary between the United States and Mexico, under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, have nearly completed their arduous labors. The initial monument of the point of beginning, on the Rio Grande, has been erected, and the line has been surveyed and marked to the mouth of the Gila river. The report of the commissioners, with a connected map of the line, will be laid before Congress at the present session. The commissioners appointed to survey the coast of Texas have completed their labors, and their report will be communicated to Congress. The commissioners appointed to run the boundary between the United States and the Republic of Texas have entered upon the performance of their duties, and are actively engaged in surveying the line. The report of the commissioners, with a map of the country over which the line has been run, will be laid before Congress at the present session.

The commissioners appointed to ascertain the validity of claims to lands under the Spanish treaty of 1819, have completed their labors, and their report will be laid before Congress. The claims to lands in Florida, which have been confirmed by the decrees of the board of commissioners, and by the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States, have been surveyed, and will be offered for sale at the public auction, at the following places, to wit: Tallahassee, Newnansville, Ocala, Micanopy, Gainesville, Palatka, Tampa, Key West, and Saint Augustine, on the 1st day of January next, and the following days

Selected Poetry.

A WIFE'S LAST CARE.

BY CHARLES SWAIN.

Shadows lay still on the ivory
Whereon my hand I rest;
And there on its dead quiet lay again
Death's shadow closed by another's pain—
And then self-weep to leave that thing
To sun, and frost, and showers,
Yet think "God will the trees that fell
Lift's purge—on truth a joy,—are we!"

And when the last and dues are paid,
And coal, and ring, the service bear;
Oh, look to him whom eyes are dim!
And comfort him "and all to go!
With tender eyes his home prayer.
He daily set supposed to be,
And put away each thing, I pray,
Which young might but make his grieve.

And ever said, one be on spend.
To set all things in comfort round;
Hereafter he poor, desolate is mere;
Where sentence—kindness—love—no fiend;
He likes to see the fire burn fine—
A clear, warm, welcome, kindly ray;
Oh, think of this—*mind for him rules*
Thy mother little as he may!

And mind the hour; for time's a drowse
Fond often when we're "in the gone;"
We're be too late—not for him more
Sleep labor brings sleep longer on!
And, my child! to serve
However hasty he may be,
And God shall honor how much I own.
In these my last—last—hours in time!

Selected Articles.

LEGAL PENALTIES FOR CRIME.

In a story by Mrs. Frances D. Gage, we find the following criticisms on legal punishments for crime:—

"Would it not have been better, Aunt Hannah, if Henry Whitwell had stayed with his family, or attended himself to the duties of his farm, and lived but the penalties attached to his crimes, than to have run away and dissipated them in the way he did? It seems to me it would have carried with it a more honest look."

"It may have been honest looking, but perhaps if we examine the subject, we shall come to a different conclusion. I am not at all sure that the penalties of the law, as they now stand, are not in some measure unjust, if they are not dishonest. I suppose Henry Whitwell had forgiven himself into the hands of the officers of justice: he would have been tried and sentenced to the State's Penitentiary for not less than ten years, perhaps twenty. His education, his position in society, his very nature would have aggravated and made blacker his crimes with an impartial jury. And so they should, for the more light and knowledge a man has, the deeper is his responsibility if he does wrong, and he is less worthy of praise for the performance of right. An ignorant person, they think, would have sentenced him to the extent of the law, for his crime was a legal one. The State or Union would have taken him from his wife, whom in the sight of God still man he had sworn to love, cherish and protect, and from his children, who could have no other father or protector, and placed him in the cheerless cell assigned to a felon! And for whom would he labor? Could he, if he wished, make restitution to those he had injured? No. Could he still help and protect his family, for whose sake, though so wrongfully, he had been tempted to do it? No. He was useless for the State, or he is hired out by the State to some jobber or speculator who pays to the State one-third or one-half of what he can look-dly earn; if he were a freeman; and thus his toil and labor enrich some scheming individual, while the family are wrapped, or the wife and children he has been taken from, may live in poverty and degradation. No State, no country should ever make a revenue out of crime."

"But I don't see, aunt, how it can be done any better."

"I cannot see, Isabel, that the State has any more right to take a criminal's life, than an individual has to rob the individual. Society should be protected, and criminals should be restrained and made HARMLESS by the privilege to labor to the highest bound that can be bestowed upon them, if allowed to labor according to their strength and ability. Let them pay for all their own expenses first; then let the surplus of their earnings be divided between those whom they are naturally bound to protect and those they have wilfully wronged. Such a system would teach the criminal a love-full lesson, which he is to be good, and teach him to be just. Aye, it would! Bah, Mr. Whitwell, you have been a lawmen, and that society is thus restraining him, had but acted the part of a kind but wise and loving parent in taking him back to duty."

"But that would be no punishment at all."

"Indeed? and what right has society to punish? Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord. It is punishment it inflicts, in my mind, simply to punishment. What the object is not reform, it becomes malice or revenge, and works a deadly evil in the heart of the offender on whom it is inflicted. But I am no lawyer or legislator, and don't know how to argue this matter; I only give you my thoughts to ponder upon."

"For me to ponder upon? Pshaw!—what have young girls to do with the criminal code of Ohio, or any other State, I'd like to know?"

"About as much as any one else, I should think; young girls are subject to that criminal code if they commit transgression."

"Oh, to be sure they are; but then they commit so few transgressions, that one might almost say they lived aright without the law. I've been in the Penitentiary, and I never saw a woman there yet."

"There are women there, Bell, pent, wretched, abandoned women, that would chase that careless smile from your lip, and make it pale with terror, to think that anything in the form of woman could be brought so low. I am glad but little of the dark ways of life, my child—but I have heard of their shame and sin of which even our own sex is guilty. But let us turn from them to men and to the laws that govern both.

"You are so women in the State Prison, but you saw men by scores and hundreds—pale, hard, down, gloomy looking men—who came from the light and sunshine of life; separated from every dear and softening association; deprived of every sympathy of feeling, for long, long weeks, months and years, and shut up in their dark, damp, loathsome, unventilated cells at night, with no hope for the future to lighten their labors, no cheering thought of doing good to make the future tolerable, all was dreary and compulsory. Alone, among their fellows, alone with the harrowing, guilty thoughts of the past, the cheerless, hopeless foreboding of the future. Was there anything in all this that struck you as looking past fallen upon repentance?"

"Anything to make his heart better? Yes, yes it is your duty to ponder the law of the land—it renders it well, although that law generally falls on the head of man to the offender, it seldom fails to fall at the same time on the heart of woman. The sympathies between the sexes of her son, and the light of her life is dimmed forever. The tender the death-knell of her brother's honor, and a shade of sin and sorrow falls upon all her hopes. The wife sees her husband enter the gloomy portals of crime and shame; and the iron that shuts him in enters her own soul—although that law generally falls on the head of man to the offender, it seldom fails to fall at the same time on the heart of woman. The sympathies between the sexes of her son, and the light of her life is dimmed forever. The tender the death-knell of her brother's honor, and a shade of sin and sorrow falls upon all her hopes. The wife sees her husband enter the gloomy portals of crime and shame; and the iron that shuts him in enters her own soul—although that law generally falls on the head of man to the offender, it seldom fails to fail